

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **Rumania** REPORT  25X1

SUBJECT **The Port of Constanta** DATE DISTR. **30 August 1955**

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DATE ACQUIRED  This is UNEVALUATED Information

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## 1. The following commercial vessels were observed in the port of Constanta:

- a.  freighter, SANT'ANTONIO, loading lumber for Beyrouth.
- b.  freighter of Liberty type, loading cement for Persian Gulf.
- c.  freighter, DEA MAZZELLA, loading cement for Persian Gulf.
- d. Rumanian freighter loading lumber.

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2. On 24 June 1955 no commercial ships were allowed to leave Constanta harbor because of gunnery practice taking place outside the port area. On this date all of the Rumanian Naval ships were out of the harbor taking part in these exercises. A certain amount of antiaircraft practice also took place during the same day. Antiaircraft batteries fired at a target being hauled by an airplane flying from north to south over the port area. It was not possible to localize the position of these batteries nor to hear the sound of firing at the point of origin. The only thing clearly visible was the explosion in the air which occurred at an estimated altitude of 3-4,000 meters. The tempo of the firing was quite normal and not more than four or five bursts could be noticed in the air at the same time. The entire antiaircraft exercise did not last more than twenty minutes. Judging from the size of the bursts, the antiaircraft shells must have been of cannon size.

3. The economic situation in Constanta is quite precarious. Food is very scarce and expensive and of inferior quality. Clothing is also of very poor quality and is rationed. The people sometimes show open hostility to the present regime to the point of desiring another war as the only means of liberation.

4. A very large number of Soviet military personnel are stationed in Constanta. A great portion of the buildings in good condition are requisitioned by Soviet military establishments and the buildings in the upper part of the city are used by the Soviets for their offices and homes. Buildings in the lower part of the city are occupied by Rumanian military personnel.

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